Work Task B1: Lake Mohave Razorback Sucker Larvae Collections

Partners: Lower Colorado River Native Fish Work Group

Point of Contact: Tom Burke, LC-2300 (702) 293-8711

Purpose: Harvest wild razorback sucker larvae from Lake Mohave and

deliver to Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery for inclusion into

the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program.

Conservation Measures: RASU3, RASU5, and RASU8

Long-term Goal: Razorback sucker are one of two endangered fish species targeted

for the Fish Augmentation Project. Wild razorback sucker larvae

provide the best quality fish for this program.

Location: Lake Mohave

FY05 Estimate: \$175,000 for in-house staff, equipment, material, and supplies for

the collection and transportation of 65,000 larvae from Lake Mohave to Willow Beach Hatchery. This is a labor intensive action. The FY05 budget estimate is \$175,000 of which only

\$25,000 is equipment, material and supplies.

Project Description: This project will capture wild-born razorback sucker larvae from

Lake Mohave, and deliver them to Willow Beach Hatchery for initial rearing. Since 1992 Reclamation and its partners have been rebuilding the razorback sucker brood stock in Lake Mohave. Each winter/spring these fish spawn along the lake's shoreline. Their larvae represent the remaining genomes for razorback sucker and provide a level of genetic diversity found nowhere else in the

world.

The Lower Colorado River Native Fish Work Group met in September 2004 and recommended that all razorback rearing be

initiated from wild-caught Lake Mohave larvae.

FY04 Accomplishment: During 2004, some 25,000 razorback sucker larvae were captured

and transferred to Willow Beach Hatchery.